

analogous to saying that a river must be used that flows into the Mississippi River. While the Mississippi River limits the number of rivers that may be used—only rivers that flow in the Mississippi may be used—the Mississippi itself is not claimed.) Thus, language in the claims that “the query notification signal is received by the listing party’s telephonic peripheral” or
5 that “the query notification signal is received by the listing party’s computer” only serve to show the destination of the query notification signal—the listing party’s computer or the listing party’s telephonic peripheral are not being claimed.

The term “computer” used in the claims means any electrical or electronic device or
10 combination of electrical or electronic devices that receives, processes, and presents data.

The term “identifying picture of the querying party” as used in the claims refers to the picture of the querying party, and not the querying party him/herself.

15 The term “telephonic peripheral,” as used in the claims means any analog or digital telephone end-user device—such as, but not limited to, a POTS telephone (Plain Old Telephone Service), cellular telephone, digital phones, faxes, pagers—that do not operate in the packet-switching environment of the Internet, but are nonetheless interconnected and make use of the public telephone system as a means of communication. A “telephonic peripheral” may
20 nonetheless interact with the Internet environment, such as a POTS telephone receiving an Internet telephone call.

The term “comprising” in the following claims means to be made up of the recited elements and limitations and is intended to read-on devices or methods that contain all the elements
25 and limitations, regardless as to whether the device or method contains additional elements or limitations not specifically claimed. Except for claims 129 and 130, none of the following claims invokes paragraph 6 of 35 U.S.C. § 112 so as to be interpreted as being in means-plus-function or step-plus-function format. Any preamble that does not contain the word “improvement” is not intended to be in Jepson format and does not form a limitation of the
30 claim itself.

Preambles containing the word “improvement” are intended to be Jepson claims and the language of the preamble forms part of the claims. As to “An improved method of screening an electronic or telephonic database of personal contact information of a listing party, the
35 improvement comprising,” the personal contact information of the listing party forms the limitations of the claim, not the listing party him/herself. The listing party is not being claimed, just his or her personal contact information in an electronic or telephonic database.

I claim:

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1. A web-based personal contact information system comprising:

a bridge website server located on the Internet; said bridge website server comprising any computer, sub-component of a computer, or group of computers, or any combination
45 thereof, that possesses the capacity of maintaining a client/server environment on the Internet;

said bridge website server having a personal contact information directory database that is capable of storing personal contact information of a listing party;

5 said bridge website server receiving a querying signal generated by a querying party; said querying signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously from the querying party that embodies both a request for the personal contact information of the listing party and also embodies a communication of identifying information about the querying party, regardless as to whether the querying signal is modified or altered along its path from the querying party to the bridge website server;

10 said bridge website server having a registration facility; said registration facility comprising a device capable of receiving the querying party's personal contact information embodied in the querying signal, storing the querying party's personal contact information, and transmitting it to the listing party;

15 said bridge website server generating a query notification signal that notifies the listing party that there has been a query for the personal contact information of the listing party; said query notification signal notifying the listing party of the communication of identifying information of the listing party; said query notification signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously to the listing party that embodies both a request for the personal contact information of the listing party and also embodies a communication of identifying information about the querying party, regardless as to whether the querying notification signal is modified or altered along its path from the bridge website server to the listing party.

20 2. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 1 further comprising said bridge website server receiving a consent/no consent signal from the listing party; said consent/no consent signal directing the bridge website server as to what, if any, information stored in the personal contact information directory database is to be sent to the querying party; said consent/no consent signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously from the listing party to the bridge website server that embodies an instruction as to what personal contact information, if any, is to be sent to the querying party, regardless as to whether the consent/no consent signal is modified or altered along its path from the listing party to the bridge website server.

35 3. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 further comprising a personal contact information signal generated by the bridge website server sent to the querying party; said personal contact information signal containing the personal contact information of the listing party that was directed to be sent to the querying party according to dictates of the consent/no consent signal generated by the listing party; said personal contact information signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously to the querying party that embodies the personal contact information that is to be sent to the querying party, regardless as to whether the personal contact information signal is modified or altered along its path from the bridge website server to the querying party.

45 4. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the bridge website server is capable of generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the querying party.

5. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 4 wherein both the querying signal and the consent/no consent signal follows the TCP/Internet Protocol.

6. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 further comprising:

the personal contact information database containing an e-mail address of the listing party;

the personal contact information signal sent to the querying party containing the e-mail address of the listing party pursuant to the instruction of the consent/no consent signal generated by they listing party.

7. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 further comprising:

the personal contact information database containing a telephone number of the listing party;

the personal contact information signal sent to the querying party containing the telephone number of the listing party pursuant to the instruction of the consent/no consent signal generated by they listing party.

8. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 further comprising:

the personal contact information database containing a street address of the listing party;

the personal contact information signal sent to the querying party containing the street address of the listing party pursuant to the instruction of the consent/no consent signal generated by they listing party.

9. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 further comprising:

the personal contact information database containing a fax number of the listing party;

the personal contact information signal sent to the querying party containing the fax number of the listing party pursuant to the instruction of the consent/no consent signal generated by they listing party.

10. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 further comprising:

the personal contact information database containing a pager number of the listing party;

the personal contact information signal sent to the querying party containing the pager number of the listing party pursuant to the instruction of the consent/no consent signal generated by they listing party.

11. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 further comprising:

the personal contact information database containing a time and place that the listing party will be available;

the personal contact information signal sent to the querying party containing the time and place that the listing party will be available pursuant to the instruction of the consent/no consent signal generated by they listing party.

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12. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the querying signal received by the bridge website server is generated by the querying party using a querying party's computer.

10 13. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 further comprising:

the bridge website server capable of generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the querying party;

15 the querying signal received by the bridge website server being generated by the querying party using a querying party's computer equipped with a web browser and modem for accessing the bridge website; said modem of the querying party's computer comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer.

20 14. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 further comprising:

the bridge website server capable of generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the listing party;

25 the consent/no consent signal received by the bridge website server being generated by the listing party using a listing party's computer having a web browser and modem for accessing the bridge website; said modem of the listing party's comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer.

30 15. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 further comprising:

the bridge website server capable of generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the querying party;

35 the querying signal received by the bridge website server being generated by the querying party using a querying party's computer having a web browser and modem for accessing the bridge website; said modem of the querying party's computer comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer;

40 the consent/no consent signal received by the bridge website server being generated by the listing party using a listing party's computer having a web browser and modem for accessing the bridge website; said modem of the listing party's comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer.

45 16. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 further comprising:

the bridge website server capable of generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the querying party;

the querying signal received by the bridge website server being generated by the querying party using a querying party's computer having a web browser and modem for accessing the bridge website; said modem of the querying party's computer comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer;

the consent/no consent signal received by the bridge website server being generated by the listing party using a listing party's computer having a web browser and modem for accessing the bridge website; said modem of the listing party's comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer;

said querying signal, consent/no consent signal, personal contact information signal and query notification signal following the TCP/Internet Protocol.

17. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the registration facility of the bridge website server stores a name of the querying party and transmits it as a part of the query notification signal to the listing party.

18. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the registration facility of the bridge website server stores an e-mail address of the querying party and transmits it as a part of the query notification signal to the listing party.

19. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the registration facility of the bridge website server stores a responses to a questionnaire by the querying party and transmits it as a part of the query notification signal to the listing party.

20. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the registration facility of the bridge website server stores information from the group consisting of e-mail address, school(s) attended, credit card number, social security number, telephone number or residence of the querying party and transmits it as a part of the query notification signal to the listing party.

21. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 further wherein the query notification signal is sent to a listing party's computer as a signal from the group consisting of e-mail, e-mail with a voice attachment, or a real time Internet telephone call message.

22. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 further comprising:

a database questionnaire signal that is sent to the listing party which prompts the listing party to generate a personal information storage signal that indicates the particular information the listing party would like to make available by the bridge website server and stored in the personal contact information directory database; said personal information storage signal comprising personal information sent to and received by the bridge website server.

23. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 further comprising:

the bridge website server capable of generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the querying party and the listing party;

5 a database questionnaire signal that is sent to the listing party which prompts the listing party to generate a personal information storage signal that indicates the particular information the listing party would like to make available by the bridge website server and stored in the personal contact information directory database; said personal information storage signal being received by the bridge website server.

10 24. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 further comprising: the bridge website server capable of generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the querying party and the listing party;

15 a database questionnaire signal that is sent to the listing party which prompts the listing party to generate a personal information storage signal that indicates the particular information the listing party would like to make available by the bridge website server and stored in the personal contact information directory database; said personal information storage signal being received by the bridge website server.

20 the personal information storage signal containing information from among the group consisting of the e-mail address of the listing party, the telephone number of the listing party, the fax number of the listing party, the pager number of the listing party, or the street address of the listing party.

25 25 . The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 further comprising:

30 a database questionnaire signal that is sent to the listing party; said database questionnaire signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously that embodies a request for the personal contact information of the listing party that the listing party would like to have stored in the personal contact information directory, regardless as to whether the database questionnaire signal is modified or altered along its path to the listing party;

35 a personal information storage signal that indicates the particular information the listing party would like to have stored in the personal contact information directory database; said personal information storage signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously from the listing party to the bridge website server that embodies personal contact information that the listing party would like to have stored in the personal contact information directory of the bridge website server, regardless as to whether the personal information storage signal is modified or altered along its path from the listing party to the
40 bridge website server.

26. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 further comprising:

45 the bridge website server capable of generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the querying party and the listing party;

a database questionnaire signal that is sent to the listing party; said database questionnaire signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously that embodies a request for the personal contact information of the listing party that the listing

party would like to have stored in the personal contact information directory, regardless as to whether the database questionnaire signal is modified or altered along its path to the listing party;

- 5 a personal information storage signal that indicates the particular information the listing party would like to have stored in the personal contact information directory database; said personal information storage signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously from the listing party to the bridge website server that embodies personal contact information that the listing party would like to have stored in the personal contact
10 information directory of the bridge website server, regardless as to whether the personal information storage signal is modified or altered along its path from the listing party to the bridge website server;

- 15 the querying signal received by the bridge website server being generated by the querying party using a querying party's computer having a web browser and modem for accessing the bridge website; said modem of the querying party's computer comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer;

- 20 the consent/no consent signal received by the bridge website server being generated by the listing party using a listing party's computer having a web browser and modem for accessing the bridge website; said modem of the listing party's comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer.

- 25 27. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 further comprising:

- the bridge website server capable of generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the querying party and the listing party;

- 30 a database questionnaire signal that is sent to the listing party; said database questionnaire signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously that embodies a request for the personal contact information of the listing party that the listing party would like to have stored in the personal contact information directory, regardless as to whether the database questionnaire signal is modified or altered along its path to the listing party;

- 35 a personal information storage signal that indicates the particular information the listing party would like to have stored in the personal contact information directory database; said personal information storage signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously from the listing party to the bridge website server that embodies personal contact information that the listing party would like to have stored in the personal contact
40 information directory of the bridge website server, regardless as to whether the personal information storage signal is modified or altered along its path from the listing party to the bridge website server;

- 45 the personal information storage signal containing information from among the group consisting of the e-mail address of the listing party, the telephone number of the listing party, the fax number of the listing party, the pager number of the listing party, or the street address of the listing party.

the querying signal received by the bridge website server being generated by the querying party using a querying party's computer having a web browser and modem for accessing the bridge website; said modem of the querying party's computer comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer;

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the consent/no consent signal received by the bridge website server being generated by the listing party using a listing party's computer having a web browser and modem for accessing the bridge website; said modem of the listing party's comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer;

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the query notification signal sent to a listing party's computer as a signal from the group consisting of e-mail, e-mail with a voice attachment, or a real time Internet telephone call message.

15 28. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the personal contact information signal conforms to the TCP/IP protocol.

29. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the personal contact information is received by a telephonic peripheral of the querying party.

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30. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the personal contact information contained in the personal contact information signal is in the form of telephone call to a pager with a screen display.

25 31. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the personal contact information contained in the personal contact information signal is in the form a voice telephone call.

30 32. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the personal contact information contained in the personal contact information signal is in the form an analog voice telephone call.

35 33. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the personal contact information signal is sent to a telephonic peripheral of the querying party.

34. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the personal contact information contained in the query notification signal is in the form of an analog telephone call to a pager with a screen display to the querying party.

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35. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the personal contact information contained in the personal contact information signal sent to the querying party is in the form of a voice telephone call.

45 36. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a listing party's telephonic peripheral.

37. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a listing party's pager.

38. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a telephone with a screen display.

5 39. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a listing party's analog telephone.

40. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a listing party's cellular or digital telephone.

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41. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a listing party's telephonic peripheral and the consent/no consent signal is sent from the listing party's telephonic peripheral.

15 42. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a listing party's voice telephone and the consent/no consent signal is sent from the listing party's voice telephone.

20 43. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a listing party's analog voice telephone and the consent/no consent signal is sent from the listing party's analog voice telephone.

25 44. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a listing party's telephone with a screen display and the consent/no consent signal is sent from the listing party's telephone with a screen display.

45. A web-based personal contact information system comprising:

30 a bridge website server located on the Internet; said bridge website server comprising any computer, sub-component of a computer, or group of computers, or any combination thereof, that possesses the capacity of maintaining a client/server environment on the Internet;

35 said bridge website server having a personal contact information directory database that is capable of storing personal contact information of a listing party;

40 said bridge website server receiving a parameter requirements signal generated by the listing party that is sent to the bridge website server; said parameter requirements signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously to the bridge website server that embodies established parameters wherein certain, if any, personal contact information contained in the personal contact information directory database of a bridge website server will be sent to a querying party, regardless as to whether the parameter requirements signal is modified or altered along its path from the listing party to the bridge website server;

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said bridge website server receiving a request for information signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously from the querying party that embodies a request for the personal contact information of the listing party, regardless as to whether

the querying signal is modified or altered along its path from the querying party to the bridge website server;

5 said bridge website server generating a questionnaire signal for the querying party that is sent to the querying party; said questionnaire signal for the query party comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously sent from the bridge website server that embodies a questionnaire for the querying, regardless as to whether the questionnaire signal for the querying party is modified or altered along its path from the bridge website server to the querying party;

10 said bridge website server receiving a questionnaire response signal from the querying party; said questionnaire response signal from the query party comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously sent to the bridge website server from the querying party that embodies a response to the questionnaire by the querying party,
15 regardless as to whether the questionnaire response signal from the querying party is modified or altered along its path from the querying party to the bridge website server.

46. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 further comprising:

20 said bridge website sever generating a personal contact information signal; said personal contact information signal sent to the querying party; said personal contact information signal containing the personal contact information of the listing party that was directed to be sent to the querying party according to dictates of the parameter requirements signal generated by the listing party and the response to the questionnaire embodied in the
25 questionnaire response signal from the query party; said personal contact information signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously to the querying party that embodies the personal contact information that is to be sent to the querying party, regardless as to whether the personal contact information signal is modified or altered along its path from the bridge website server to the listing party.

30 47. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 46 further comprising: said personal contact information signal containing information from among the group consisting of the e-mail address of the listing party, the telephone number of the listing party, the fax number of the listing party, the pager number of the listing party, or the street
35 address of the listing party.

48. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 further comprising:

40 said parameter requirements signal being generated by a listing party's computer;

said questionnaire signal for the querying party being received by a querying party's computer;

45 said query signal and said questionnaire response signal from the querying party being generated by the querying party's computer.

49. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 further comprising:

said parameter requirements signal being generated by a listing party's computer having a web browser and modem;

5 said questionnaire signal for the querying party being received by a querying party's computer having a web browser and modem; said modem of the querying party's computer comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer.

10 said query signal and said questionnaire response signal from the querying party being generated by the querying party's computer having a web and modem.

50. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 further comprising:

15 a database questionnaire signal that is sent to the listing party; said database questionnaire signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously that embodies a request for the personal contact information of the listing party that the listing party would like to have stored in the personal contact information directory, regardless as to whether the database questionnaire signal is modified or altered along its path from the
20 bridge website server to the listing party.

51. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 46 further comprising:

25 the bridge website server capable of generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the querying party and the listing party;

a database questionnaire signal that is sent to the listing party; said database questionnaire signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously that
30 embodies a request for the personal contact information of the listing party that the listing party would like to have stored in the personal contact information directory, regardless as to whether the database questionnaire signal is modified or altered along its path to the listing party;

35 a personal information storage signal that indicates the particular information the listing party would like to have stored in the personal contact information directory database; said personal information storage signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously from the listing party to the bridge website server that embodies personal contact information that the listing party would like to have stored in the personal contact
40 information directory of the bridge website server, regardless as to whether the personal information storage signal is modified or altered along its path from the listing party to the bridge website server;

45 the request for information signal and the questionnaire response from the query party received by the bridge website server being generated by the querying party using a querying party's computer.

the querying party's computer having a web browser and modem for accessing the bridge website; said modem of the querying party's computer comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer;

5 said parameter requirements signal and personal information storage signal generated by the listing party's computer; said listing party's computer having a web browser and modem for accessing the bridge website; said modem of the listing party's comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer.

10 52. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 46 further comprising: said personal contact information signal providing complete disclosure of the listing party's personal contact information, based upon the parameter requirements signal generated by the listing party and the questionnaire response signal generated by the querying party

15 53. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 further comprising:
said personal contact information signal providing partial disclosure of the personal contact information, based upon the parameter requirements signal generated by the listing party and the questionnaire response signal generated by the querying party

20 54. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 further comprising:

said personal contact information signal denying any disclosure of personal contact information but notifying the querying party that they will contact the querying party directly, based upon the parameter requirements signal generated by the listing party and the questionnaire response signal generated by the querying party

25 55. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 further comprising:
30 said personal contact information signal denying any disclosure of personal information and requesting more complete identification information from the querying party by sending another questionnaire signal for the querying party which will prompt the querying party for more information, based upon the parameter requirements signal generated by the listing party and the questionnaire response signal generated by the querying party

35 56. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 further comprising:
said personal contact information signal deny any disclosure but sending a message to the querying party, based upon the parameter requirements signal generated by the listing party and the questionnaire response signal generated by the querying party

40 57. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 further comprising:
45 said personal contact information signal denying any disclosure and not responding in any other way to the querying party by way of an additional message, based upon the parameter requirements signal generated by the listing party and the questionnaire response signal generated by the querying party

58. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 wherein the parameter for releasing personal contact information is the name of the querying party.
59. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 wherein the parameter for releasing personal contact information is a demographic profile of the querying party.
60. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 wherein the parameter for releasing personal contact information is the address (be it street address, zip code, or geographical area) of the querying party.
61. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 wherein the parameter for releasing personal contact information is the educational history of the querying party.
62. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 wherein the parameter for releasing personal contact information is the present school of the querying party.
63. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 wherein the parameter for releasing personal contact information is the employment history of the querying party.
64. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 wherein the parameter for releasing personal contact information is the present employment of the querying party.
65. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 wherein the parameter for releasing personal contact information is the club membership of the querying party.
66. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 wherein the parameter for releasing personal contact information is the interest of the querying party.
67. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 wherein the parameter for releasing personal contact information is the religion of the querying party.
68. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 wherein the parameter for releasing personal contact information is the parish affiliation of the querying party.
69. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 wherein the parameter for releasing personal contact information is the gender of the querying party
70. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 wherein the parameter for releasing personal contact information is the family relation of the querying party.
71. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 wherein the parameter for releasing personal contact information is the password known by the querying party
72. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 45 wherein the parameter for releasing personal contact information is based on a systematic weighing of parameters of the querying party.
73. An improved method of screening personal contact information from an electronic or telephonic database, the improvement comprising:

- receiving a parameter requirements signal containing information as to what personal contact information should be made available to a querying party based upon a response to a questionnaire;
- 5 receiving a querying signal embodying a request for personal contact information of the listing party;
- 10 sending a questionnaire signal to the querying party asking for information regarding the querying party;
- receiving a questionnaire response signal from the querying party providing answers to the questionnaire;
- 15 sending a personal contact information signal to a querying party based upon the received questionnaire response signal containing responses to a questionnaire and the parameter requirements established in the parameter requirement signal.
- 20 74. The method of claim 73 wherein the parameter requirements signal, the querying signal, the questionnaire signal to the querying party, the questionnaire response signal from the querying party, and the personal contact information signal to the querying party are all sent over the Internet.
- 25 75. An improved method of providing personal contact information from an electronic or telephonic database, the improvement comprising:- 30 receiving a querying signal generated over the Internet by a querying party; said querying signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously from the querying party that embodies both a request for the personal contact information of a listing party and also embodies a communication of identifying information about the querying party;
- 35 generating a query notification signal over the Internet that notifies the listing party that there has been a query for the personal information of the listing party; said query notification signal notifying the listing party of the communication of identifying information of the listing party; said query notification signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously to the listing party that embodies both a request for the personal contact information of the listing party and also embodies a communication of identifying information about the querying party.
- 40 76. The method of claim 75 further comprising:- 45 receiving a consent/no consent signal over the Internet from the listing party; said consent/no consent signal directing what, if any, personal contact information is to be sent to the querying party; said consent/no consent signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously from the listing party that embodies an instruction as to what personal information, if any, is to be sent to the querying party.
- 77. The method of claim 76 further comprising:

generating a personal contact information signal over the Internet to the querying party; said personal contact information signal containing the personal contact information of the listing party that was directed to be sent to the querying party according to dictates of the consent/no consent signal generated by the listing party; said personal contact information signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously to the querying party that embodies the personal information that is to be sent to the querying party.

78. The method of claim 77 further comprising the step of generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the querying party.

79. The method of claim 78 wherein both the querying signal and the consent/no consent signal follows the TCP/Internet Protocol.

80. The method of claim 77 further comprising:

the personal contact information database containing an e-mail address of the listing party; the personal contact information signal containing the e-mail address of the listing party pursuant to the instruction of the consent/no consent signal generated by they listing party.

81. The method of claim 77 further comprising:

the personal contact information database containing a telephone number of the listing party; the personal contact information signal containing the telephone number of the listing party pursuant to the instruction of the consent/no consent signal generated by they listing party.

82. The method of claim 77 further comprising:

the personal contact information database containing a street address of the listing party; the personal contact information signal containing the street address of the listing party pursuant to the instruction of the consent/no consent signal generated by they listing party.

83. The method of claim 77 further comprising:

the personal contact information database containing a fax number of the listing party; the personal contact information signal containing the fax number of the listing party pursuant to the instruction of the consent/no consent signal generated by they listing party.

84. The method of claim 77 further comprising:

the personal contact information database containing a pager number of the listing party; the personal contact information signal containing the pager number of the listing party pursuant to the instruction of the consent/no consent signal generated by they listing party.

85. The method of claim 77 further comprising:

the personal contact information database containing a time and place that the listing party will be available; the personal contact information signal the time and place that the listing party will be available pursuant to the instruction of the consent/no consent signal generated by the listing party.

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86. The method of claim 77 wherein the querying signal is generated by the querying party using a querying party's computer.

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87. The method of claim 77 further comprising the step of generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the querying party, wherein the querying signal is generated by the querying party using a querying party's computer having a web browser and modem; said modem of the querying party's computer comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer.

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88. The method of claim 77 further comprising the step of generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the listing party, wherein the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party using a listing party's computer having a web browser and modem; said modem of the listing party's comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer.

20

89. The method of claim 77 further comprising the step of generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the querying party; wherein:

25

the querying signal is generated by the querying party using a querying party's computer having a web browser and modem; said modem of the querying party's computer comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer;

30

the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party using a listing party's computer having a web browser and modem; said modem of the listing party's comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer.

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90. The method of claim 77 further comprising the step of generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the querying party wherein:

the querying signal is generated by the querying party using a querying party's computer having a web browser and modem; said modem of the querying party's computer comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer;

40

the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party using a listing party's computer having a web browser and modem; said modem of the listing party's comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer;

45

said querying signal, consent/no consent signal, personal contact information signal and query notification signal following the TCP/Internet Protocol.

91. The method of claim 77 further comprising the step of storing a name of the querying party and transmitting it as a part of the query notification signal to the listing party.

92. The method of claim 77 further comprising the step storing an e-mail address of the querying party and transmitting it as a part of the query notification signal to the listing party.

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93. The method of claim 77 further comprising the step of storing a responses to a questionnaire by the querying party and transmitting it as a part of the query notification signal to the listing party.

10 94. The method of claim 77 further comprising the step of storing information from the group consisting of e-mail address, school(s) attended, credit card number, social security number, telephone number or residence of the querying party and transmits it as a part of the query notification signal to the listing party.

15 95. The method of claim 77 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a listing party's computer as a signal from the group consisting of e-mail, e-mail with a voice attachment, or a real time Internet telephone call message.

96. The method of claim 77 further comprising:

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generating a database questionnaire signal that is sent over the Internet to the listing party, which prompts the listing party to generate a personal information storage signal that indicates the particular information, the listing party would like to make available.

25 97. The method of claim 77 further comprising the steps of:

generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the querying party and the listing party;

30 generating a database questionnaire signal that is sent over the Internet to the listing party which prompts the listing party to generate a personal information storage signal that is sent over the Internet and that indicates the particular information the listing party would like to make available to the querying party.

35 98. The method of claim 77 further comprising the steps of:

generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the querying party and the listing party;

40 generating a database questionnaire signal that is sent over the Internet to the listing party which prompts the listing party to generate a personal information storage signal over the Internet that indicates the particular information the listing party would like to make available to the querying party; wherein:

45 the personal information storage signal containing information from among the group consisting of the e-mail address of the listing party, the telephone number of the listing party, the fax number of the listing party, the pager number of the listing party, or the street address of the listing party.

99 . The method of claim 77 further comprising:

generating a database questionnaire signal over the Internet that is sent to the listing party;
said database questionnaire signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or
5 simultaneously that embodies a request for the personal contact information of the listing
party;

receiving a personal information storage signal over the Internet that indicates the particular
information the listing party would like to have stored; said personal information storage
10 signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously from the
listing party that embodies personal contact information that the listing party would like to
have stored.

15 100 . The method of claim 77 further comprising the steps of:

generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the querying party and the listing
party;

20 generating a database questionnaire signal over the Internet that is sent to the listing party;
said database questionnaire signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or
simultaneously that embodies a request for the personal contact information of the listing
party that the listing party would like to have stored;

25 receiving a personal information storage signal over the Internet that indicates the particular
information the listing party would like to have stored; said personal information storage
signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously from the
listing party that embodies personal contact information that the listing party would like to
have stored; wherein:

30 the querying signal is generated by the querying party using a querying party's computer
having a web browser and modem; said modem of the querying party's computer
comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote
computer;

35 the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party using a listing party's
computer having a web browser and modem; said modem of the listing party's comprising
of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer.

40 101. The method of claim 77 further comprising:

generating a bridge website that may be accessed by the querying party and the listing
party;

45 generating a database questionnaire signal that is sent to the listing party over the Internet;
said database questionnaire signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or
simultaneously that embodies a request for the personal contact information of the listing
party that the listing party would like to have stored;

receiving a personal information storage signal that indicates the particular information the listing party would like to have; said personal information storage signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously from the listing party that embodies personal contact information that the listing party would like to have stored; wherein:

the personal information storage signal containing information is comprised from among the group consisting of the e-mail address of the listing party, the telephone number of the listing party, the fax number of the listing party, the pager number of the listing party, or the street address of the listing party;

the querying signal is generated by the querying party using a querying party's computer having a web browser and modem; said modem of the querying party's computer comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer;

the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party using a listing party's computer having a web browser and modem; said modem of the listing party's comprising of any device that allows one computer to communicate with a remote computer;

the query notification signal sent to a listing party's computer as a signal from the group consisting of e-mail, e-mail with a voice attachment, or a real time Internet telephone call message.

102. The method of claim 77 wherein the personal contact information signal conforms to the TCP/IP protocol.

103. The method of claim 77 wherein the personal contact information is received by a telephonic peripheral of the querying party.

104. The method of claim 77 wherein the personal contact information contained in the personal contact information signal is in the form of telephone call to a pager with a screen display.

105. The method of claim 77 wherein the personal contact information contained in the personal contact information signal is in the form a voice telephone call.

106. The method of claim 77 wherein the personal contact information contained in the personal contact information signal is in the form an analog voice telephone call.

107. The method of claim 77 wherein the personal contact information signal is sent to a telephonic peripheral of the querying party.

108. The method of claim 77 wherein the personal contact information contained in the query notification signal is in the form of an analog telephone call to a pager with a screen display to the querying party.

109. The method of claim 77 wherein the personal contact information contained in the personal contact information signal sent to the querying party is in the form a voice telephone call.
- 5 110. The method of claim 77 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a listing party's telephonic peripheral.
111. The method of claim 77 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a listing party's pager.
- 10 112. The method of claim 77 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a telephone with a screen display.
113. The method of claim 77 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a listing party's analog telephone.
- 15 114. The method of claim 77 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a listing party's cellular or digital telephone.
- 20 115. The method of claim 77 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a listing party's telephonic peripheral and the consent/no consent signal is sent from the listing party's telephonic peripheral.
- 25 116. The method of claim 77 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a listing party's voice telephone and the consent/no consent signal is sent from the listing party's voice telephone.
- 30 117. The method of claim 77 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a listing party's analog voice telephone and the consent/no consent signal is sent from the listing party's analog voice telephone.
- 35 118. The method of claim 77 wherein the query notification signal is sent to a listing party's telephone with a screen display and the consent/no consent signal is sent from the listing party's telephone with a screen display.
- 40 119. A method of screening personal contact information comprising:
receiving a querying signal embodying a request for personal contact information of a listing party;
receiving a consent/no consent signal establishing what personal contact information will be made available to a querying party.
- 45 120. The method of claim 119 further comprising:
generating a query notification signal that is sent to a listing party which notifies the listing party of the existence of a query for personal contact information of the listing party and which provides identifying information about the querying party;

generating a personal contact information signal that is sent to a querying party that provides the personal contact information that the listing party desired to make available to the querying party.

5 121. The method of claim 120 further comprising the step of generating a bridge website.

122. The method of claim 120 further comprising the steps of generating a database questionnaire signal and receiving a personal information storage signal.

10 123. The method of claim 119 wherein both the stops of receiving a querying signal embodying a request for personal contact information of a listing party and receiving a consent/no consent signal establishing what personal contact information will be made available to a querying party are not performed over the Internet.

15 124. The method of claim 119 wherein both the stops of receiving a querying signal embodying a request for personal contact information of a listing party and receiving a consent/no consent signal establishing what personal contact information will be made available to a querying party *are* performed over the Internet.

20 125. The method of claim 120 wherein both the stops of receiving a querying signal embodying a request for personal contact information of a listing party and receiving a consent/no consent signal establishing what personal contact information will be made available to a querying party are not performed over the Internet; and wherein both the steps of generating a query notification signal that is sent to a listing party which notifies the listing party of the existence of a query for personal contact information of the listing party and which provides identifying information about the querying party are *not* performed over the Internet.

25 126. The method of claim 120 wherein both the stops of receiving a querying signal embodying a request for personal contact information of a listing party and receiving a consent/no consent signal establishing what personal contact information will be made available to a querying party are performed over the Internet; and wherein both the steps of generating a query notification signal that is sent to a listing party which notifies the listing party of the existence of a query for personal contact information of the listing party and which provides identifying information about the querying party *are* performed over the Internet.

30 127. The method of claim 122 wherein both the stops of receiving a querying signal embodying a request for personal contact information of a listing party and receiving a consent/no consent signal establishing what personal contact information will be made available to a querying party are not performed over the Internet; and wherein both the steps of generating a query notification signal that is sent to a listing party which notifies the listing party of the existence of a query for personal contact information of the listing party and which provides identifying information about the querying party are *not* performed over the Internet; and wherein the steps of generating a database questionnaire signal and receiving a personal information storage signal are not performed over the Internet.

128. The method of claim 122 wherein both the steps of receiving a querying signal embodying a request for personal contact information of a listing party and receiving a consent/no consent signal establishing what personal contact information will be made available to a querying party are performed over the Internet; and wherein both the steps of
5 generating a query notification signal that is sent to a listing party which notifies the listing party of the existence of a query for personal contact information of the listing party and which provides identifying information about the querying party *are* performed over the Internet; and wherein the steps of generating a database questionnaire signal and receiving a personal information storage signal *are* performed over the Internet.

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129. A web-based personal contact information system comprising:

a bridge website server having a personal contact information database; said bridge website server comprising any computer, sub-component of a computer, or group of computers, or
15 any combination thereof, that possesses the capacity of maintaining a client/server environment on the Internet;

means for screening which personal contact information will be received by a querying party by establishing questionnaire parameters.

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130. A web-based personal contact information system comprising:

a bridge website server having a personal contact information database; said bridge website server comprising any computer, sub-component of a computer, or group of computers, or
25 any combination thereof, that possesses the capacity of maintaining a client/server environment on the Internet;

means for screening which personal contact information will be received by a querying party by having the listing party screen individual queries for personal information.

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131. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 1 wherein the query notification signal contains an identifying picture.

132. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 1 wherein the query notification signal contains an identifying picture of the querying party.

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133. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the query notification signal contains an identifying picture.

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134. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the query notification signal contains an identifying picture of the querying party.

135. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 1 wherein the query notification signal contains an identifying voice sample.

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136. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 1 wherein the query notification signal contains an identifying voice sample of the querying party.

137. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the query notification signal contains an identifying voice sample.

5 138. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the query notification signal contains an identifying voice sample of the querying party.

10 139. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 1 wherein the bridge website server is further comprised of an attempt counter and wherein if the querying party exceeds a maxim number of allowed contact attempts, the querying party is shutoff and the listing party receives no more query notification signals whose origins is the shutoff querying party.

15 140. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 2 wherein the bridge website server is further comprised of an attempt counter and wherein if the querying party exceeds a maxim allowed number of contact attempts, the querying party is shutoff and the listing party receives no more query notification signals whose origins is the shutoff querying party.

20 141. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the bridge website server is further comprised of an attempt counter and wherein if the querying party exceeds a maxim allowed number of contact attempts, the querying party is shutoff and the listing party receives no more query notification signals whose origins is the shutoff querying party.

25 142. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's computer, the personal contact information signal is received by the querying party's computer, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's computer, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party's computer.

30 143. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's computer, the personal contact information signal is received by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's computer, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party's computer.

35 144. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's computer, the personal contact information signal is received by the querying party's computer, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's telephonic peripheral, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by a listing party's computer.

40 145. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's computer, the personal contact information signal is received by the querying party's computer, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's computer, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by a listing party's telephonic peripheral.

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146. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's computer, the personal contact information signal is received by the querying party's computer, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's telephonic peripheral, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party's telephonic peripheral.

147. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's computer, the personal contact information signal is received by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's computer, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by a listing party's telephonic peripheral.

148. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's computer, the personal contact information signal is received by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's telephonic peripheral, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by a listing party's computer.

149. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's computer, the personal contact information signal is received by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's telephonic peripheral, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party's telephonic peripheral.

150. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the personal contact information signal is received by a querying party's computer, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's computer, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party's telephonic computer.

151. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the personal contact information signal is received by a querying party's computer, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's computer, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by a listing party's telephonic peripheral.

152. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the personal contact information signal is received by a querying party's computer, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's telephonic peripheral, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by a listing party's computer.

153. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the personal contact information signal is received by a querying party's computer, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's telephonic peripheral, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party's telephonic peripheral.

154. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the personal contact information signal is received by the querying party's telephonic peripheral, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's computer, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party's telephonic computer.

155. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the personal contact information signal is received by the querying party's telephonic peripheral, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's computer, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by a listing party's telephonic peripheral.

156. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the personal contact information signal is received by the querying party's telephonic peripheral, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's telephonic peripheral, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by a listing party's computer.

157. The web-based personal contact information system of claim 3 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the personal contact information signal is received by the querying party's telephonic peripheral, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's telephonic peripheral, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party's telephonic peripheral.

158. An improved method of providing an electronic or telephonic database of personal contact information of a listing party, the improvement comprising:

receiving a querying signal generated by a querying party; said querying signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously from the querying party that embodies both a request for the personal contact information of a listing party and also embodies a communication of identifying information about the querying party, regardless as to whether the querying signal is modified or altered along its path from the querying party;

generating a query notification signal that notifies the listing party that there has been a query for the personal contact information of the listing party; said query notification signal notifying the listing party of the communication of identifying information of the listing party; said query notification signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously to the listing party that embodies both a request for the personal contact information of the listing party and also embodies a communication of identifying information about the querying party, regardless as to whether the querying notification signal is modified or altered along its path to the listing party;

159. The improved method of claim 158 further comprising:

receiving a consent/no consent signal from the listing party; said consent/no consent signal directing what, if any, personal contact information is to be sent to the querying party; said consent/no consent signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously from the listing party that embodies an instruction as to what personal

contact information, if any, is to be sent to the querying party, regardless as to whether the consent/no consent signal is modified or altered along its path from the listing party.

160. The improved method of claim 159 further comprising:

generating a personal contact information signal generated to be sent to the querying party; said personal contact information signal containing the personal contact information of the listing party that was directed to be sent to the querying party according to dictates of the consent/no consent signal generated by the listing party; said personal contact information signal comprising one or more signals sent in any sequence or simultaneously to the querying party that embodies the personal contact information that is to be sent to the querying party, regardless as to whether the personal contact information signal is modified or altered along its path to the querying party.

161. The improved method of claim 160 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's computer, the personal contact information signal is received by the querying party's computer, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's computer, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party's computer.

162. The improved method of claim 160 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's computer, the personal contact information signal is received by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's computer, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party's computer.

163. The improved method of claim 160 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's computer, the personal contact information signal is received by the querying party's computer, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's telephonic peripheral, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by a listing party's computer.

164. The improved method of claim 160 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's computer, the personal contact information signal is received by the querying party's computer, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's computer, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by a listing party's telephonic peripheral.

165. The improved method of claim 160 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's computer, the personal contact information signal is received by the querying party's computer, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's telephonic peripheral, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party's telephonic peripheral.

166. The improved method of claim 160 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's computer, the personal contact information signal is received by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's computer, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by a listing party's telephonic peripheral.

167. The improved method of claim 160 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's computer, the personal contact information signal is received by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's telephonic peripheral, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by a listing party's computer.

168. The improved method of claim 160 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's computer, the personal contact information signal is received by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's telephonic peripheral, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party's telephonic peripheral.

169. The improved method of claim 160 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the personal contact information signal is received by a querying party's computer, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's computer, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party's telephonic computer.

170. The improved method of claim 160 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the personal contact information signal is received by a querying party's computer, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's computer, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by a listing party's telephonic peripheral.

171. The improved method of claim 160 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the personal contact information signal is received by a querying party's computer, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's telephonic peripheral, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by a listing party's computer.

172. The improved method of claim 160 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the personal contact information signal is received by a querying party's computer, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's telephonic peripheral, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party's telephonic peripheral.

173. The improved method of claim 160 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the personal contact information signal is received by the querying party's telephonic peripheral, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's computer, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party's telephonic computer.

174. The improved method of claim 160 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the personal contact information signal is received by the querying party's telephonic peripheral, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's computer, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by a listing party's telephonic peripheral.

175. The improved method of claim 160 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the personal contact information signal is received by the querying party's telephonic peripheral, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's telephonic peripheral, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by a listing party's computer.

176. The improved method of claim 160 wherein the querying signal is generated by a querying party's telephonic peripheral, the personal contact information signal is received by the querying party's telephonic peripheral, the query notification signal is received by a listing party's telephonic peripheral, and the consent/no consent signal is generated by the listing party's telephonic peripheral.

177. The improved method of claim 176 wherein the querying signal is received over the public telephone system, the personal contact information signal is generated over the public telephone system, the query notification signal is generated over the public telephone system, and the consent/no consent signal is received over the public telephone system.

178. The improved method of claim 160 further comprising:

counting the number of attempts by the querying party to obtain the personal contact information of the listing party;

shutting off a querying party from causing additional query notification signals to be generated when the number of attempts to obtain personal contact information exceeds a pre-established limit.